

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01

AID-20 /170 W

----- 030514

R 191515Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7015

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOSBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 4245

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, PU

SUBJECT: JOINT DECLARATION SIGNED BY ROMANIA AND GUINEA-
BISSAU RAISES BILATERAL RELATIONS TO HIGHER LEVEL

REF: BUCHAREST 3527 AND 3554

1. VISIT OF ARISTIDES PERIERA, SEC GEN OF GUINEA-BUSSAU
INDEPENDENCE PARTY, AND HIS DELEGATION TO ROMANIA, WHICH
TOOK PLACE NOVEMBER 12-16, CONCLUDED WITH THE SIGNING OF
LENGTHY "JOINT DECLARATION." SIGNED BY PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU
FOR ROMANIAN SIDE IN PRESENCE OF MUCH OF TOP GOR LEADERSHIP,
DECLARATION, ON PAPER AT LEAST, GOES FAR BEYOND CEAUSESCU-
CABRAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF JUNE 1972. VISIT ITSELF
RECEIVED EXTENSIVE, FAVORABLE ROMANIAN MEDIA COVERAGE.

2. CHIEF POINTS OF INTEREST IN JOINT DECLARATION ARE
DECISION TO CREATE "MIXED COMMISSION" FROM BOTH STATES TO
"ANALYZE PROBLEMS OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND
CULTURAL COLLABORATION" AND PRESENT APPROPRIATE PROPOSALS;
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ROMANIA'S AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE HELPING G-B IN TRAINING

AND FORMATION OF CADRES IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SPHERES; AND
DECISION TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT EMBASSY LEVEL.
G-B SIDE ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR PAST AND PRESENT
"POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC, MORAL AND MATERIAL" AID ACCORDED
BY PCR. REMAINDER OF DECLARATION MOSTLY KEEPS TO WELL-
KNOWN POSITIONS ON VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS. WITHOUT
GETTING DOWN TO SPECIFICS, DECLARATION GIVES IMPRESSION THAT
G-B IS GOING CONCERN, CONTROLLING MOST OF THE TERRITORY IT
CLAIMS AND FUNCTIONING IN NORMAL MANNER FOR SOVEREIGN STATE.

3. PERIERA INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN SCINTEIA NOVEMBER 19
GIVES SAME UPBEAT PICTURE OF SITUATION AS IS CONTAINED IN
DECLARATION, ALTHOUGH HE DOES ADMIT THAT BUILDING UP OF
INFRASTRUCTURE IS NOT EASY IN FACE OF ATTACKS BY
PORTUGUESE TROOPS, WHO "STILL OCCUPY CERTAIN PORTIONS OF
TERRITORY OF OUR FATHERLAND." NEVERTHELESS, HE CLAIMS
THAT "OUR ARMY" HAS RECENTLY ACHIEVED A SERIES OF
IMPORTANT VICTORIES AND, SUPPORTED BY ALL THE PEOPLE,
WILL FIGHT ON UNTIL THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS LIBERATED.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE TALK OF MIXED COMMISSION, AID,
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, ETC., VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN
LARGELY PROPAGANDA EXERCISE ON BOTH SIDES. AT LITTLE COST
TO THEMSELVES ROMANIANS, WE BELIEVE, HAVE BEEN USING
VISIT TO ENHANCE THEIR REPUTATION FOR UPHOLDING AFRICAN
INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS, WHILE G-B IS DOUBTLESS PLEASED TO
HAVE MORAL SUPPORT AND BE TREATED LIKE SOVEREIGN STATE
BY ROMANIA. ROMANIAN SUPPORT FOR G-B IN INTERNATIONAL
FORUMS SUCH AS UN IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AND INCREASE BUT WE
DOUBT THAT MATERIAL AID WILL RISE ABOVE TOKEN LEVELS, IN
THE SHORT RUN AT LEAST.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUCHAR04245
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731126/aaaaasyq.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BUCHAREST 3527 AND 3554
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <01-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT DECLARATION SIGNED BY ROMANIA AND GUINEA- BISSAU RAISES BILATERAL RELATIONS TO HIGHER LEVEL
TAGS: PFOR, RO, PU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005